

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 3, 14 and 20 have been canceled, and claims 1, 4, 12, 18, 19, 21 through 23 , and 38 through 44 have been amended.

Claims 1, 2, 4 through 13, 15 through 19 and 21 through 44 are pending and under consideration.

No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

In Item 1, claims 18 through 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. To overcome the rejection, the Examiner suggests that the preamble be amended to recite "a computer readable medium, stored with, embodied with or encoded with a computer program or computer executable instructions." Applicants have amended the relevant claims to recite "a computer-readable medium that stores a program." In view of this change, it is submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn.

On page 13 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that dependent claims 2 through 9, 13 through 17 and 19 through 23 contain allowable subject matter. The limitations of claim 2 have been incorporated into claim 1, and claim 2 has been cancelled. The limitations of claim 14 have been incorporated into claim 12, and claim 14 has been cancelled. The limitations of claim 20 have been incorporated into claim 18, and claim 20 has been cancelled. Accordingly, each of independent claims 1, 12 and 18 should now contain allowable subject matter. Claims 2, 4 through 11, 13, 15 through 17, 19 and 21 through 23 depend directly or indirectly on one of claims 1, 12 and 18. Claims 24 through 44 have been allowed.

At least in view of the Examiner's indication of allowability, it is submitted that the prior art rejection should be withdrawn. There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Any action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If any formal matters remain after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the inventor's attorney.

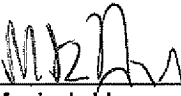
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If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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